

THE WHIG STANDARD.



"Flag of the free! thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph nigh."

FOR PRESIDENT,
HENRY CLAY,
OF KENTUCKY.

WASHINGTON.

MONDAY MORNING, FEB. 5, 1844.

MR. BENTON.

The eulogistic remarks pronounced by Mr. Benton upon Judge Porter, in seconding the resolutions of respect offered by Mr. Barrow, on announcing the death of his late colleague in the Senate on Friday, were among the most touching and appropriate we ever had the melancholy pleasure to listen to in that Hall. He who can utter sentiments expressive of such deep sensibility, in language glowing with the warmth of private friendship and high esteem, has a heart susceptible to the finest impulses, and capable of harboring all those generous feelings, which, when permitted to have full play, elevate and adorn human nature.

We have entertained prejudices against Col. Benton, believing him to be cold, austere, selfish, and destitute of the finer feelings of humanity; various circumstances, however, have of late led us to believe we have formed a wrong estimate of his character. As a politician he is firmly attached to his own principles, and inflexible in maintaining them; and yet fair and manly in his course towards his opponents, never seeking to gain his purpose by anything like unfair strategy, and scorning to take any undue and unmanly advantage. In his opposition he is open, frank, bold, and above board; pursuing his object, however, "with an eye that never sleeps, and an energy that never tires," he heeds no obstacles, listens to no remonstrance, fears no opposition, and sets at naught public opinion, content to attain his purpose, and, so he can accomplish that, caring, apparently, for nothing else.

These qualities fit him to be, as he is, the leader of his party, and render him at times the terror of the timid, the indomitable commander, and the acknowledged chief of that party, as he is its soul and embodiment.

The following is Mr. Benton's beautiful, eloquent, and feeling eulogium upon Judge Porter, his early and cherished friend, though political opponent, to which we have alluded.

The resolutions having been read, Mr. BENTON rose and said:

I rise, Mr. President, to second the motion which has been made to render the last honors of this chamber to our deceased brother Senator, whose death has been so feelingly announced; and in doing so, I comply with an obligation of friendship, as well as conform to the usage of the Senate. I am the oldest personal friend which the illustrious deceased can have upon this floor, and amongst the oldest which he can have in the United States. It is now, sir, more than the period of a generation—more than the third of a century—since the then emigrant Irish boy, ALEXANDER PORTER, and myself met on the banks of the Cumberland river, at Nashville, in the State of Tennessee, when commenced a friendship which death only dissolved on his part. We belonged to a circle of young lawyers, and students at law, who had the world before them, and nothing but their exertions to depend upon. First a clerk in his uncle's store, then a student at law, and always a lover of books, the young PORTER was one of that circle, and it was the custom of all that belonged to it to spend their leisure hours in the delightful occupation of reading. History, poetry, elocution, biography, the ennobling speeches of the living and the dead, were our social recreation; and the youngest member of the circle was one of our favorite readers. He read well, because he comprehended clearly, felt strongly, remarked beautifully upon striking passages, and gave a new charm to the whole with his rich, mellifluous Irish accent. It was then that I became acquainted with Ireland and her children, read the ample story of her wrongs, learnt the long list of her martyred patriots' names, sympathized in their fate, and imbibed the feelings for a noble and oppressed people which the extinction of my own life can alone extinguish.

Time and events dispersed that circle. The young PORTER, his law license signed, went to the Lower Mississippi; I to the Upper. And, years afterwards, we met on this floor, Senators from different parts of that vast Louisiana which was not even a part of the American Union at the time that he and I were born. We met here in the session of 1833, '34—high party times, and on opposite sides of the great party line; but we met as we had parted years before. We met as friends; and, though often our part to reply to each other in the ardent debate, yet never did we do it with other feelings than those with which we were wont to discuss our subjects of recreation on the banks of the Cumberland.

I mention these circumstances, Mr. President, because, while they are honorable to the deceased, they are also justiciary to myself for appearing as the second to the motion which has been made. A personal friendship of almost forty years gives me a right to appear as a friend to the deceased on this occasion, and to perform the office which the rules and the usage of the Senate permit, and which so many other Senators would so cordially and so faithfully perform.

In performing this office, I have, literally, but little else to do but to second the motion of the Senator from Louisiana, [Mr. Barrow.] The mover has done ample justice to his great subject. He also had the advantage of long acquaintance and intimate personal friendship with the deceased. He also knew him on the banks of the Cumberland, though too young to belong to the circle of young lawyers and law students, of which, the junior member—the young ALEXANDER PORTER—was the chief ornament and delight. But he knew him—long and intimately—and has given evidence of that knowledge in the just, the feeling, the cordial, and impressive eulogium which he has just delivered on the life and character of his deceased friend and colleague. He has presented to you the matured man, as developed in his ripe and meridian age; he has presented to you the finished scholar, the eminent lawyer, the profound judge, the distinguished senator, the firm patriot, the constant friend, the honorable man, the brilliant converser, the social, cheerful, witty companion. He has presented to you the ripe fruit, of which I saw the early blossom, and of which I felt the assurance, more than thirty years ago, that it would ripen into the golden fruit which we have all beheld.

Mr. President, this is no vain or empty ceremonial in which the Senate is now engaged. Honors to the illustrious dead go beyond the discharge of a debt of justice to them, and the rendition of consolation to their friends; they become lessons and examples for the living. The story of their humble beginning, and noble conclusion, is an example to be followed, and an incitement to be felt. And where shall we find an example more worthy of imitation, or more full of encouragement, than in the life and character of ALEXANDER PORTER?—a lad of tender age—an orphan with a widowed mother and younger children—the father martyred in the cause of freedom—an exile before he was ten years old—an ocean to be crossed, and a strange land to be seen, and a wilderness of a thousand miles to be penetrated, before he could find a resting place for the sole of his foot; then education to be acquired, support to be earned, and even citizenship to be gained, before he could make his own talents available to his support; conquering all these difficulties by his own exertions, and the aid of an affectionate uncle—(I will name him, for the benefactor of youth deserves to be named, and named with honor in the highest places)—with no other aid but that of an uncle's kindness, Mr. Alexander Porter, sen., merchant of Nashville, also an emigrant from Ireland, and full of the generous qualities which belong to the children of that soil: this lad, an exile and orphan from the Old World, thus starting in the New World, with everything to gain before it could be enjoyed, soon attained every earthly object, either brilliant or substantial, for which we live and struggle in this life. Honors, fortune, friends; the highest professional and political distinction; long a supreme judge in his adopted State; twice a Senator in the Congress of the United States—wearing all his honors fresh and growing to the last moment of his life—and the announcement of his death followed by the adjournment of the two Houses of the American Congress! What a noble and crowning conclusion to a beginning so humble, and so apparently hopeless! Honors to such a life—the honors which we now pay to the memory of Senator PORTER—are not mere offerings to the dead, or mere consolations to the feelings of surviving friends and relations; they go further, and become incentives and inducements to the ingenious youth of the present and succeeding generations, encouraging their hopes, and firing their spirits with a generous emulation.

Nor do the benefits of these honors stop with individuals, nor even with masses, or generations of men. They are not confined to persons, but rise to institutions—to the noble republican institutions under which such things can be! Republican government itself—that government which holds man together in the proud state of equality and liberty—this government is benefited by the exhibition of the examples such as we now celebrate, and by the rendition of the honors such as we now pay. Our deceased brother Senator has honored and benefited our free republican institutions by the manner in which he has advanced himself under them; and we make manifest that benefit by the honors which we pay him. He has given a practical illustration of the working of our free, and equal, and elective form of government; and our honors proclaim the nature of that working. What is done in this chamber is not done in a corner, but on a lofty eminence, seen of all people. Europe, as well as America, will see how our form of government has worked in the person of an orphan, exiled boy, seeking refuge in the land which gives to virtue and talent all that they will ever ask—the free use of their own exertions for their own advancement.

Our deceased brother was not an American citizen by the accident of birth; he became so by the choice of his own will, and by the operation of our laws. The events of his life, and the business of this day, show this title to citizenship to be as valid in our America as it was in the great republic of antiquity. I borrow the thought, not the language of Cicero, in his pleading for the poet Archias, when I place the citizen who becomes so by law and choice, on an equal footing with the citizen who becomes so by chance. And, in the instance now before us, we may say that our adopted citizen has repaid us for the liberality of our laws; that he has added to the stock of our national character by the contributions which he has brought to it in the purity of his private life—the eminence of his public services—the ardor of his patriotism, and the elegant productions of his mind.

And here let me say—and I say it with pride and satisfaction—our deceased brother Senator loved and admired his adopted country with a love and admiration increasing with his age, and with his better knowledge of the countries of the Old World. A few years ago, and after he had obtained great honor and fortune in this country, he returned on a visit to his native land, and to the continent of Europe. It was an occasion of honest exultation for the orphan emigrant boy to return to the land of his fathers, rich in the goods of this life, and clothed with the honors of the American Senate. But the visit was a melancholy one to him. His soul sickened at the state of his fellow man in the old world, (I had it from his own lips) and he returned from that visit with stronger feelings than ever in favor of his adopted country. New honor awaited him here—that of a second election to the American Senate. But of this he was not permitted to taste; and the proceedings of this day announce his second brief elevation to this body, and his departure from it through the gloomy portals of death, and the radiant temple of enduring fame.

OPPOSITION POST OFFICES AND MAIL ROUTES.

The establishment of an opposition post office arrangement by a private company whose headquarters are in New York, and who propose to carry letters, for a much less sum than is charged by the United States, between the principal cities on the seaboard, is, to say the least of it, a very extraordinary movement, and we hold it to be one which should be arrested by the strong arm of the Government. It may be said there is no law to prohibit men from travelling with a trunk full of papers or letters, and that therefore the plan cannot be broken up. If there be no such law there should be, and the sooner it is passed the better. There is a law authorizing search to be made for smuggled goods—let Congress pass one authorizing search to be made for smuggled mails; for, without the power of self-protection and self-defence, it is impossible our Post Office establishment can be maintained.

It is upon a few routes, those between the principal cities on the Atlantic border, that the Government is able to make profit enough to meet the losses sustained upon those in the interior and sparsely settled sections of the country. The Post Office establishment, as a whole, barely sustains itself, and, if deprived of the profit derived from the routes beforementioned, it must either become a heavy burden upon the Treasury, or be abandoned altogether. Will the people agree to either alternative? Will the West and South consent to dispense with Government mails, and take their chance of getting letters and papers by private mails? If not, then must they clothe the Postmaster General, and other officers of the Government, with the power necessary to arrest and punish those who may attempt to break up the establishment, or who shall carry letters for hire on any mail route in the United States, or on board any steamboat, rail car, stage coach, or other conveyance, running upon such mail routes, river, lake, railroad, or highway.

It is singular what notions prevail in regard to cheating the Government. Few think it a crime to smuggle, for instance, and he who can successfully defraud the General Government, not only does not think himself guilty of a crime, but plumes himself on having been extremely smart. This attempt to defraud the Post Office is an act of the same character as smuggling.

Having given a sketch of Mr. Barrow's truthful and touching eulogy upon his late distinguished colleague, Judge Porter, we this morning copy that of Mr. Benton.

The Senate recently confirmed, "nemo dissentiente," the nomination of Lieut. Colonel BENNET RILEY, 2d Infantry, to a Brevet Colonelcy in the Army. This distinguished mark of consideration, by the Senate of the United States, has been awarded to Colonel Riley, for his gallantry on several occasions on the Canada frontier, during the war with England, and for his uniform obedience of orders, and faithful service from that period to the present.

MAINE ELECTION.—In the seventh district of Maine returns from 78 towns gave Robinson (Whig) 3,364 votes, Cary (Loco) 3,183, and 118 scattering, leaving Robinson 63 majority over all. There are yet 17 towns and settlements to be heard from, the votes of which were very small at the last trial. In these places there were for Robinson 66 votes, for Cary 104, scattering 49. If Mr. Robinson has gained 25 votes in the places not yet heard from, he is elected.

Since the above was in type, we have learned through private letters received in this city that Robinson is elected in the 7th district of Maine, and that ABBOT is also elected in the 3d district of Massachusetts.

The New Orleans papers of the 26th ult. say nothing of the election of a United States Senator in the place of the Hon. Alexander Porter, deceased, so the resolution we referred to as pending at the last advice could not have passed the Legislature.

MR. CLAY.—The following letter from Mr. Clay, addressed to a committee of the Clay Club of Montgomery, Alabama, will afford his friends some information with regard to his route through the Southern States:

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 6, 1844.

Gentlemen: I have received here your friendly letter, inquiring the time of my arrival at Montgomery, in my route to the southern Atlantic States, and I take great pleasure in communicating the desired information as far as practicable.

I purpose leaving this city towards the 25th of February for Mobile, where I shall remain a few days. I wish to take my departure from that city the 1st, 2d, or 3d of March, according to circumstances. You can judge better than I the requisite time to make the voyage to Montgomery. I shall be most happy to meet and exchange friendly salutations in that city with any of my fellow-citizens who may be desirous of seeing me.

I am, with respect, your friend and obedient servant,
H. CLAY.

Messrs. R. D. WARE, and others, Committee.

EFFECT OF THE TARIFF.—The Washington (Wilkes county Georgia) News says—"A rumor, which we believe to be true, as it comes to us well authenticated, says that a wealthy English Company have purchased a large tract of land (about 8,000 acres) in South Carolina, seven miles above Petersburg, Georgia, on the Savannah river, including great water privileges, for the purpose of entering largely into the business of manufacturing cotton goods, &c. It is intended, it is said, to import all the requisite workmen from England, who are to be settled on the land; thus forming an English colony in the borders of the Palmetto State. [All right, go ahead!]

THE WEATHER.—At Montpelier, Vermont, on the 21st inst., the thermometer indicated FORTY DEGREES BELOW ZERO—mercury frozen. Wonder, how cold would it have been, had the mercury not have frozen!

On Sunday morning last, at Hollis, Maine, the mercury stood at 30 degrees below zero.

At Troy, on Sunday, the mercury stood at 20 degrees below zero; at Pittsfield the same. At Poughkeepsie 13 below. At Troy on Monday morning, 12 below. Neither on Sunday nor Monday did the mercury rise above zero during the day.

At Portland, Maine, the mercury, as indicated by several thermometers about town, fell to 9 degrees below zero.

At Saratoga, on the 27th ult., the thermometer fell to 38 degrees below zero. It ranged from 29 to 38 for the three following days. At Whitehall it marked 20 below. At Dover, N. H., on the 28th ult., it stood at 28 below.

A FATAL OCCURRENCE.—The Vicksburg Sentinel records a tragical affair, which took place on the 16th ult., at the wood yard of Mr. Thos. Mason, in the upper part of that county, and by which Mr. W. B. Richards, a clerk of the steamboat Yucatan, lost his life:

"It seems that the 'Yucatan' stopped to wood at Mr. Mason's yard, which is under charge of Wm. Kinchelo, and a dispute occurring between Kinchelo and Richards, as to the quantity of wood in a certain pile, Richards struck Kinchelo several times with a stick or measuring rod, which he happened to have in his hand at the time. Kinchelo retreated after having received the first blow, and kept doing so until he had receded some twelve or fifteen feet from where he stood at the time of the assault. Some one, probably one of the officers or hands of the boat, cried out repeatedly to Richards, 'kill him, shoot the rascal,' and Richards was in the act of advancing again on Kinchelo, when the latter drew a pistol and shot him right through the heart. Richards lived only a few moments after being shot. Mr. Kinchelo at once surrendered himself to the captain of the 'Yucatan,' requesting to be brought to Vicksburg for trial, and exclaiming, 'Oh, that I had not carried a pistol!' The boat being on her upward passage, the captain said he could not take him to Vicksburg, but had him taken to Princeton, and delivered to the authorities."

IMPORTANT ARREST.—Two respectable looking men, named Charles Botsford and George Gage, were arrested on Wednesday night last, in New York, charged with uttering altered Treasury notes, knowing them to have been altered.

A few months ago, the sum of \$2,100 in Treasury notes, consisting of one \$500, and the remainder in \$50 and \$100 notes, were mailed at Van Buren, Arkansas, by a gentleman named Campbell, for St. Louis, by the way of Louisville, and were purloined in one of the Post-offices on the route, so that they never reached their destination. On the same night that the package was mailed, Mr. Campbell was assassinated at Van Buren. He was a lawyer by profession, and a partner of Judge Parshall, who is now in New York. The numbers of the Treasury notes were retained, and a good look-out since kept for them. Within a short time some of the same notes, altered, (as making 450, 458, &c.) have been placed in circulation, which led to the arrest of Gage and Botsford.

It appears that Botsford was an assistant Postmaster at that time at Fayetteville, Arkansas, (about fifty miles from Van Buren,) and the fifth Post-office from it, on the Louisville route. He left there some time afterwards and came to New York, where he joined his old friend Gage, who keeps a kind of broker's office in West Broadway, near Leonard street. He boards at present, or did previous to this arrest, at No. 46 Hudson street, and has a wife and child. He was poor, it is said, when he left Van Buren, and on his first arrival here, but has been well in funds since. Gage and himself have been very intimate. Mr. Baker, broker, testified to Gage passing upon him some treasury notes, which have been identified as those mailed, and Mr. Secor, broker, corner Broadway and Canal street, on the examination yesterday afternoon, testified, that the prisoners came to his office together, and that Gage got him to change a \$500 and a \$100 Treasury note.

In relation to the murder of Mr. Campbell, it is feared that it was connected with the mailing of the package, to destroy his testimony as to mailing, or something of the kind, but, of course, that is all conjecture.—N. Y. Sun.

FROM BUENOS AYRES.—The Rosabella, at Salem, brings dates to November 18. The papers contain bulletins of five battles, the principal one of which gives an account of a decisive victory gained by the Buenos Ayrean General, Gomez, over the Montevidean General, Silva, with 1,200 men, at Cerro del Palado. The latter is reported to have lost 300 killed, with 70 prisoners. Gomez reports only 8 killed and 10 wounded.

The other bulletins are accounts of small victories and massacres. The latest intelligence represents Rivera as having been driven nearly to the Brazilian frontier, closely pursued by General Urquiza.

The Buenos Ayrean papers entirely in the interest of Rosas speak in bitter terms of the course of the blockade, as having been the means of prolonging the war; and among the intercepted letters to Rivera from his fellow rulers within the walls of Montevideo, which they continue to publish, are some showing that the Montevideans looked on the commodore as a friend.

Rosas, by a decree of November 9, requires the consignees and shippers of vessels exporting any articles of provisions to give bonds that those articles shall not reach Montevideo.

We were visited yesterday at our sanctum by a most extraordinary personage. He presented a voluminous manuscript setting forth his claims to the Presidency of the United States.

He is from Illinois, Tazewell county, and was born and raised in Pennsylvania, and appears to be about 70 years old. His name is "Peter Sprinkle." He calls himself the backwoods candidate, and really believes that he is the only man that should be elected. Says "Van is the greatest rascal now living, that he cheated him out of eighty acres of good land." He thinks even "Mr. Clay has no chance if he can get some paper to give him a start." Clay he says is a great man, but can't be trusted.—N. O. Fashion.

SLAVERY IN OREGON.—A Methodist missionary in our far western territory, in a communication published in the Western Christian Advocate, says that slavery in that country has existed from time immemorial. The stronger tribes make war on the weaker, take prisoners and enslave them. And "many of the settlers, both French and American, buy and sell slaves. By these most of the work of farmer is done."

A correspondent of the Cincinnati Chronicle says: In Ohio there are 1,559 miles of railroads and canals, built at a cost of \$15,928,328. In Cincinnati there are butchered about fifty acres of hogs. It exports also about the same number of acres of whiskey—deep enough to float a canal boat, and owns nineteen-twentieths of 67 steamboats, costing \$1,017,000, 11,298 tons, employing 1,250 hands. The increase of the West is indeed astonishing; there have been more buildings erected in Cincinnati during the last four years, than any fifteen years previous. This year there have been built 1,003 buildings, 736 of which were brick.

PORT WINE.—As the consumption of wine has evidently decreased, it probably is not of much consequence to inquire into its component parts. Dr. Tracy, in one of his lectures, said that in one year the quantity of Port wine imported into Guernsey from Oporto, was 135 pipes and 20 hogsheads, and in the same year there were landed in the London docks alone, from Guernsey, 2,345 pipes and 162 hogsheads. Some years no wine is imported into Guernsey, and yet hundreds of pipes are shipped thence to London. The Doctor read a recipe for making Port Wine, which comprised red beet root, brandy, sugar, logwood, rhatany root, &c., and related an anecdote of a carpet manufacturer, who, on hearing the list read, exclaimed—"Oh, now I understand why, when I have gone to the docks to purchase logwood, I have always found one of the principal wine merchants there, picking out all the choice pieces." Immense quantities of logwood, likewise, are imported into Marseilles.—N. Y. Sun.

The water power of Niagara Falls, after deducting one-third for waste, is equal to the united power of 4,533,335 horses, or nineteen times greater than all the motive power employed in the manufactories and workshops of Great Britain. Will some ingenious Yankee invent a contrivance for applying the motive power of Niagara?

NO USE FOR HUMANITY.—The Nashua Telegraph, in allusion to the talking machine, facetiously remarks: "There will soon be no use for humanity. Machines have been invented for about every thing. When that for setting types is completed, we do not see but what the human family may as well adjourn. There will be but precious little for them to do, if they stay here. The whole process of civilization will go on without them."

THE HUTCHINSON FAMILY

Respectfully announce to the citizens of Washington that they will give their

THIRD VOCAL ENTERTAINMENT,

AT CARUSI'S SALOON,

ON MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 3.

When a choice selection of their most approved productions will be presented, among which are the following—

- Life in the Wild Wood free.
- The Emigrant's Lament.
- My Mother's Bible.
- The Sword and Staff.
- Reflections on Home.
- We are Happy and Free.
- The Grave of Bonaparte.
- Excelsior.
- Rockaway.
- Origin of Yankee Doodle.
- The Old Granite State, containing a family history of the thirteen sons and daughters of the tribe of Jesse.

Tickets, 50 cents each, to be had at the Music stores, Bookstores, and at the ticket office on the evening of the concert.

To commence at half-past 7 o'clock.

NO POSTPONEMENT.

Feb 5—11

NEW FAMILY GROCERY AND VARIETY STORE.

The subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public generally, that he has opened a store on Capitol Hill, a few rods southeast of the south Capitol gate, for the sale of—

- Family Groceries, Horse Feed, Hardware, Crockeryware
- Wood and Hollowware, Glassware, Baskets and Brushes
- Combs, Pins, Needles, Hooks and Eyes, Buttons
- Night Tapers, Percussion Caps, Powder and Shot
- Ball and Spool Cotton, Laces, Silk, Thread
- Window Glass and Putty
- And a great many other useful articles, too long for an advertisement.

Feb 5—law3w WM. W. STEWART.

A CARD.—The subscriber, feeling thankful for the past patronage so liberally bestowed on him, takes this method to inform his customers and the citizens generally that he will always have on hand the most choice Beef, both at his stalls, Centre Market, and at his Victualling store, corner of Seventh and D streets, opposite the Intelligence office, where he respectfully calls the attention of housekeepers to the following choice articles in store, as cheap as can be purchased in the city:

- 500 Hams of new Bacon, put up for family use expressly.
- 1,000 lbs. Smoked Beef, cured for family use expressly.
- 1,000 Beef Tongues, pickled and smoked for family use expressly.
- 40 kegs of Leaf Lard, in kegs of 30 lbs. each, for family use expressly.

Also, fresh Beef at all times of superior quality; all of which will be sold at the most reduced prices.

N. B. The accounts of my customers that are unsettled to the 1st of February instant will be made out, and I will be pleased if, when presented, they be closed either with the cash or notes at short dates.

JOHN WALKER,

Victualler, corner of Seventh and D streets,

Feb 5—eo3t

MUFF AND FUR TRIMMINGS AT REDUCED PRICES.—FISH & CO.

beg leave to announce that from this date until the close of the season, they will dispose of the balance of their stock of Furs at a very small advance upon the actual cost. Ladies wishing bargains will do well to call.

Also, a small invoice of Paris Molestin and Cassimere Hats, (Lafayette and Pompadour's Brevetes) which have become so popular both in the city of New York and here.

We offer also a varied assortment of Gentlemen's, Youths', and Infants' CAPS, embracing every style at present in vogue; all of which we will sell at exceedingly desirable prices.

FISH & CO.,

Hatters, Brown's Hotel, and Broadway, N. Y.